THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) During the period of first six months of 1988, 1272 persons were killed in incidents due to terrorist activities. 169 terrorists were killed in encounters with security forces, 12 terrorists were killed otherwise and 54 Pakistani Nationals were killed on Punjab border during the same period. 2168 terrorists were apprehended in this period.

62 policemen were killed during the above period. Information regarding the leaders of political parties and various organisations killed is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Rise in Wholesale Price Index and Price Index

780. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the comparative percentage of rise in wholesale price index (WPI) and consumer price index (CPI) from January to March, 1988 and from April 1988 till date;

(b) what is the percentage of rise in the inflationary rate as a consequence thereof; and

(c) what are the weaknesses/shortcomings, if any, identified by Government in the measures taken so far to contain the rise in the price indices and the manner in which Government propose to check the continuous spiral in the prices of essential commodities and to contain the inflationary trends?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The comparative percentage of rise in the two indices has been as follows:

Percentage Changes in WPI and CPI
(on point to point bases)

	WPI (1970-71-100)	CPI (1960-100)
	1988	1988
January to March .	1.3	0.1
April to Date .	3.4*	2.4*

*Upto 16th July, 1988 (latest)

**Upto May, 1988 (latest)

(b) The annual rate of inflation in WPI as on 16th July, 1988 was 7.7 per cent and in CPI as in May, 1988 it was 9.7 per cent.

(c) The Government has taken a number of measures on a wide front for supply and demand management in order to keep prices under reasonable check. These include steps to increase production, strengthening of Public Distribution System (PDS), import of essential commodities to augment supplies through PDS, economy in expenditure, control on liquidity and action against hoarders and profiteers. The seasonal rise in WPI during the current year so far has been the lowest in the past several years.

Communal Violence in Aurangabad

781. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether communal violence broke out in Aurangabad recently; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the major causes behind the eruption of communal violence, the number of deaths, if any and the estimated loss of public and private property as a result thereof and also the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) According to the Government of Maharashtra, a writ petition was filed by Shiv Sena in the High Court challenging the Mayoral election at Aurangabad which was set for hearing on 17th May, 1988. However, the hearing was postponed by the High Court and a group of Shiv Sainiks on the way back from the Court had heated exchanges with a sugar-cane juice vender which led to cases of stabbing, arson and stone pelting. Subsequently, the communal violence spread to the rural areas of the district like Bidkin and Paithan necessitating police firing. In the communal violence at Aurangabad on 17th May, 1988, 11 persons were killed and 182 received injuries, out of which four persons were killed and four persons were injured in police firing. Property worth Rs. 29.55 lakhs (Public Rs. 0.04 lakhs—Private 29.51 lakhs) was destroyed. In the communal violence at Paithan on 19th May, 1988, seven persons were killed and 12 were injured. There was a loss of private property worth Rs. 6.85 lakhs.

Immediately on eruption of communal violence, the Union Home Minister discussed the matter with the Chief Minister, Maharashtra and both of them visited the riot affected areas. The State Government rushed additional police re-inforcement and the communal situation was brought under control. Various measures to the State Government and it is hoped that a climate of communal harmony would prevail. None-the-less, a close vigil is being maintained on the communal situation in the State as a whole.

Decline of population of swamp Deer

782. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the poputlon of swamp deer species has declined in India;

(b) whether Government are aware that hunters often shoot deer on the pretext of killing vermins, wild boars and porcupines; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take to stop the killing of deer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) No, Sir, not in recent years.

(b) No such reports have been received.

(c) Does not arise.

Menacing effects of drugs

783. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether experts have pointed out that the future of the country is endangered due to the rising trend of drug addiction and also due to the induction of deadly drugs like smack and heroin into country by external forces which want to destabilise India; and

(b) if so, what are the details of action plan prepared by Government to check drug trafficking and also the details of the directives issued to the States to